
ATTACHMENT 2

Special Care Protocols:

Presumed Dead On Arrival (PDOA)



Note Well: *This protocol addresses when field resuscitation of patients fitting the below criteria should not be initiated. Sound judgement and assessment skills must be used when presuming a patient dead on arrival (PDOA). In the event of a PDOA patient, MPD must be contacted and a Patient Care Report must be completed in its entirety.*

I. Criteria

1. Patients may be presumed dead on arrival if apneic and pulseless with evidence of one or more of the following.

- A. Rigor Mortis.



Note Well: *Rigor Mortis is the stiffness seen in corpses and begins with the muscles of mastication and progresses from the head down to the legs and feet last. Generally manifested in 1 to 6 hours and maximum 6 to 24 hours.*

Livor Mortis is the cutaneous dark spot on dependent portion of a corpse. Generally manifested within ½ to 2 hours. Reaches maximum in eight to twelve hours.

- B. Dependent Lividity.
 - C. Decapitation.
 - D. Decomposition.
 - E. Traumatic injuries incompatible with life.
 - F. Incineration.
 - G. Submersion greater than or equal to 24 hours.

ATTACHMENT 3

We have withheld this Attachment because the documents constitute a portion of Ms. Wilson's medical record, and to preserve the privacy interests of her surviving family members.

ATTACHMENT 4

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ATTACHMENT 5

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